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Final report on the use of the funds for UNICEF support to the Special Session on Children

Introduction

1. The present report responds to Executive Board decision 2001/21 (E/ICEF/2001/6), which requested the Executive Director to provide a final report on the use of the funds for UNICEF support to the Special Session on Children at its first regular session of 2003, in light of the postponement of the Special Session until 2002, as per General Assembly decision 56/401 of 12 September 2001. Subsequently, in adopting its programme of work for 2003, the Executive Board decided to consider this final report at the present session (E/ICEF/2002/8/Rev.1, decision 2002/19).

2. By its decision 1999/12 (E/ICEF/1999/7/Rev.1), the Executive Board approved start-up funding in the amount of $2,000,000. An additional budget in the amount of $5,400,000 was approved by decision 2000/6 (E/ICEF/2000/8/Rev.1).

3. UNICEF has presented two interim reports on the status of budget implementation to the Executive Board. The first interim report was presented at the annual session of 2001 in response to decision 2000/6. The second interim report (E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.9) was presented at the second regular session in December 2001 in response to decision 2001/21.

* E/ICEF/2003/11.

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Budget, funding and utilization

	(In United States dollars)
Total approved budget	7 400 000
Total contributions pledged	7 417 439
Total expenditure as at 30 June 2003	7 415 324
Balance as at 30 June 2003	2 115

4. UNICEF received 40 contributions from 22 Member States, 6 National Committees for UNICEF and one foundation, with some of the donors giving multiple contributions. Out of the 22 Member States that contributed to the budget, 7 are countries with a UNICEF programme of cooperation and 15 are donor countries. The contributions varied from $1,000 to $800,000.

5. The funds supported UNICEF, as the substantive secretariat, to undertake an array of activities in New York, as well as in a large number of developing and industrialized countries. This included the preparation and dissemination of substantive documentation, and advocacy, mobilization and communication activities to generate increased understanding of and support for children's rights, the Special Session itself and the preparatory process.

6. The funds enabled UNICEF to mobilize partnerships for and with children and youth, leading to the "Global Movement for Children". Another initiative — the "Say Yes" campaign — exceeded all expectations, as monarchs, heads of State, adults and children from the largest cities to the most remote villages demonstrated their support to the "Rallying Call". Many constituencies, including parliamentarians, religious leaders, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and mayors, and representing allies both globally and locally, were eager to participate and contribute to the Special Session.

7. A newsletter, created for the Special Session, supported the dissemination of the latest information. Important technical consultations were organized at the time of the preparatory process, enabling participants to contribute in their various areas of expertise. Consultations were also organized in every region.

8. For the first time at a Special Session, children participated in the entire process as official delegates of both government and NGO delegations. They also participated in a Children's Forum that took place before the Special Session. The inter-generational dialogue between the child delegates and heads of State and other government officials highlighted the importance of exchanging views on matters of concern to children.

9. Member States enabled the successful convening of the Special Session on Children through their generous contributions. At the conclusion of the session, a new agenda for action was adopted by the General Assembly for the period 2002-2010 entitled "A World Fit for Children" (A/S-27/2).